

economic developers are viewing vibrant urban centers as critical to attracting workers, placing the arts at the center of the debate on community development.

Art has become a focal point for community leaders, economic development specialists and the citizens themselves. They look to the arts for inspiration, aesthetics and design, leadership and creativity, which can reshape our communities and make them vital, livable and relevant in the face of the economic changes of our time.

Richard Florida, author of the highly touted community development treatise, "The Rise of the Creative Class," says that if the goal is to attract a creative class of entrepreneurs and workers, then cities must provide, in addition to a tolerant social environment, diverse social and cultural enhancements, like great parks, art, music and lively community main streets. Art and design vitality are emphasized as a key factor that has enabled economic progress.

For decades, coalitions of arts organizations have undertaken economic impact studies to demonstrate their collective financial contribution to local, regional, and state economies, receiving scant attention from policymakers and political leaders. A recent study conducted by Americans for the Arts found the arts industry generates \$134 billion in economic activity every year. A new report by Arts North Carolina shows that the state's arts industry produces nearly \$1 billion in financial impact.

Clearly it is time to take a closer look at the measurable financial value of the arts.

The use of architecture in recent art museum design illustrates the impact of the arts on tourism and community image. Frank Gehry's Guggenheim Museum of Art in Bilbao, Spain, Santiago Calatrava's soaring structure for the Milwaukee Museum of Art, and the newly celebrated Fort Worth Museum of Modern Art by Tadao Ando have brought not only extraordinary international attention, but also tourist dollars to these cities.

Here in North Carolina, we are developing cultural landmarks as well, such as Wilmington's new Cameron Art Museum, designed by the renowned architect Charles Gwathmey. The success of this project has considerably boosted the cultural and civic energy of the city.

The Research Triangle region has invested more than \$250 million in its arts and museums infrastructure in recent years, with plans to invest nearly \$150 million more in cultural facilities in Durham, Chapel Hill and Raleigh. The N.C. Museum of Art in Raleigh has commissioned New York-based architect Thomas Phifer to create plans for its expansion.

Several other communities, including Charlotte, Asheville and the Piedmont Triad, are planning major investments in cultural facilities and the arts programs to attract jobs, visitors and dollars. Cities, large and small, are recognizing that cultural investments make economic sense.

As the arts take center stage in economic growth, metropolitan regions have the opportunity to put their cultural strengths to work. Many regions are investing in industry clusters—concentrations of businesses that are linked to each other through their suppliers and producers. There are abundant examples of real success stories when the cultural resources of a region become full partners in shaping economic development strategies. Asheville is developing a prosperous industry cluster around its regional crafts heritage. Handmade in America leads a coalition of regional organizations that promote the making and sale of crafts, as well as tourism to artisans' studios, related museums, historic inns and sites and the region's magnificent natural resources.

North Carolina has a rich history of providing cultural opportunities to its people. The first state-supported symphony orchestra, the first state-funded art collection and the first cabinet-level Department of Cultural Resources were all created here, along with an extraordinary network of 93 community-based arts councils throughout the State. These are superb sources to identify leaders who can be invaluable in shaping the conversations and agendas for economic development in our communities.

Our State's struggle with economic change will require a rearranging of investment priorities and significant private and public support. Only when the arts are used as full partners in planning will North Carolina see sustainable economies, lively communities and an enriched quality of life for everyone.

## CONGRESSMAN JACK FIELDS POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 6, 2004*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to voice my support for H.R. 4232, the Congressman Jack Fields Post Office Redesign Act. This legislation would rename the United States Postal Service facility at 4025 Feather Lakes Way in Kingwood, Texas as the "Congressman Jack Fields Post Office."

I have nothing but respect and admiration for my former colleague, Congressman Jack Fields. Jack represented the 8th Congressional District of Texas in the House of Representatives from 1981 to 1997. He served on the House Committee on Commerce, and became the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Finance in 1995. As Subcommittee Chairman, Jack led the effort in the House to enact the first comprehensive reform of the Communications Act of 1934, which became the Telecommunications Act of 1996. This bill was signed into law by President Clinton in February of that year.

As the Ranking Minority Member on the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, a position he held from 1981 to 1995, Jack was actively involved in the legislation related to oil spill liability that passed after the grounding of the Exxon Valdez in Alaska. He was also an advocate on issues as diverse as safety in the cruise ship industry, endangered species and wetlands, fisheries and wildlife refuges, promotion of American ports, shipbuilding, and the Coast Guard.

I am proud to support this salute to my friend, former Representative Jack Fields. This is truly a fitting tribute to a remarkable man, and I congratulate him on this honor.

## COMMEMORATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. CREIGHTON J. HALE

**HON. TOM OSBORNE**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 7, 2004*

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Creighton J. Hale who made many important contributions to sports safety in

baseball and softball, as well as improving the safety of law enforcement and military personnel. Dr. Hale was born in 1924 in Hardy, Nebraska. He grew up in Nebraska and graduated from Hardy Public Schools in 1942. He then continued on to attend the University of Nebraska at Lincoln for one year, and then Doane College in the V-12 officers training program for the United States Navy.

Following active duty during World War II, he earned his bachelor's degree from Colgate University at Hamilton, New York in 1948, his master's from Springfield College in 1949, and his doctorate from New York University in 1951.

Dr. Creighton J. Hale, as an exercise physiologist, first conducted a scientific study of professional baseball players while an associate professor at Springfield College from 1951-1955. Dr. Hale developed an electronic testing device to measure the reaction times of major league baseball players. Along with this research, Dr. Hale found that children had less time to react to a pitch than major league players. With the conclusion of his findings, the Little League pitching mound was moved back from 44 feet to 46 feet, thus resulting in fewer batters being injured.

One of the next inventions that Dr. Hale worked on was the double-earflap batter's helmet, now made of a variety of lightweight plastics. The original helmet was made of fiberglass and could not withstand the impact of a pitched ball. In addition, the design did not protect the temple area. Little League made use of the new helmets mandatory in 1961. Dr. Hale was also an integral part of developing the aluminum bat and the one-piece catcher's mask attached to a helmet.

Outside of sports, Dr. Hale assisted in the development of the infantry pack in 1954 for use by the United States Army. In 1976, he became chairman of a group of scientist with the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences. During this time, his research aided the development of a lightweight bullet-resistant vest used by the military and law enforcement personnel. In addition, Dr. Hale co-designed a one-piece helmet made of Kevlar that offered more protection than the Army's previous steel helmet. All United States military personnel now use this type of helmet.

Dr. Hale also made invaluable contributions as president for Little League Baseball from 1973-1994. As well as serving as president, he served as Chief Executive Officer of the Board from 1983-1996. Under his leadership, the number of leagues enrolled increased from 10,006 to 21,711 and the number of participants increased from 370,000 to 3,123,205. At the turn of the 21st century, Little League Baseball and Softball had become the world's largest youth sports program, serving boys and girls ages 5 to 18.

Dr. Creighton J. Hale has made many valuable contributions to Little League Baseball and Softball in the way of innovations and moral support. He understood the mission set by founder Carl E. Stotz that Little League was about the development of good citizens rather than good athletes through "coaches teaching kids respect and discipline and sportsmanship and the desire to excel." I commend Dr. Hale for all that he has done to improve the lives of young people, servicemen and women, and law enforcement personnel.